

CLAIMS

What is claimed:

- 1 1. In a system for creating documents from processed data, an
2 apparatus for forming processed data comprising:
 - 3 a) a data storage device for storing the processed data;
 - 4 b) a form engine connected to said data storage device for
5 formatting the processed data in said data storage device in
6 accordance with predetermined high level rules; and
 - 7 c) an output device connected to said form engine for outputting
8 formatted data created from said form engine.
- 1 2. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said predetermined high level
2 rules use loose value tradeoffs for formatting processed data.
- 1 3. The apparatus of Claim 2 wherein said loose value tradeoffs are
2 selected from a group including: fit all data on one page; cleanly define text
3 columns; bold face first line of new text; and shrink photos proportionally with
4 text.
- 1 4. The apparatus of Claim 2 further comprising sublevels of loose
2 value tradeoffs.
- 1 5. The apparatus of Claim 3 wherein loose value tradeoff -fit all
2 data on one page- further includes sublevel loose value trade offs: reduce
3 font, shrink photos and graphics proportional with font, reduce length of some
4 data fields, and shrink margin.
- 1 6. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the output device is a printer.

1 7. In a system for creating documents from processed data, an
2 apparatus for forming processed data comprising:
3 a) a data storage means for storing processed data;
4 b) a form engine means connected to said data storage means, for
5 formatting the processed data in accordance with predetermined
6 high level rules using loose value tradeoffs; and
7 c) an output means connected to said form engine means for
8 outputting formatted documents from said form engine means.

1 8. The apparatus of Claim 7 wherein said loose value tradeoffs are
2 selected from a group including: fit all data on one page; cleanly define text
3 columns; bold face first line of new text; and shrink photos proportionally with
4 text.

1 9. The apparatus of Claim 7 further comprising sublevels of loose
2 value tradeoffs.

1 10. The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein loose value tradeoff -fit all
2 data on one page- further includes sublevel loose value tradeoffs: reduce font,
3 shrink photos and graphics proportional with font, reduce length of some data
4 fields, and shrink margin.

1 11. In a system for creating documents from processed data, a
2 method of forming processed data comprising the steps of:
3 a) providing a data storage device for storing processed data;
4 b) adding processed data to said data storage device;
5 c) connecting a form engine to said data storage device and
6 formatting the processed data in accordance with predetermined
7 high level rules; and

8 d) connecting an output device to the form engine and outputting
9 formatted data from said form engine.

1 12. The method of Claim 11 wherein the predetermined high level
2 rules use loose value tradeoffs for formatting processed data.

1 13. The method of Claim 12 further comprising the step of selecting
2 said loose value tradeoffs from a group including: fit all data on one page;
3 cleanly define text columns; bold face first line of new text; and shrink photos
4 proportionally with text.

1 14. The method of Claim 12 further comprising the step of adding
2 sublevels of said loose value tradeoffs.

1 15. The method of Claim 14 further comprising the step of adding
2 sublevel loose value tradeoffs: reduce font, shrink photos and graphics
3 proportional with font, reduce length of some data fields, and shrink margins.

1 16. In a system for creating documents from processed data,
2 computer code recorded on a computer readable medium for forming
3 processed data comprising:

4 a) computer code for a data storage system for storing processed
5 data;

6 b) computer code for a form engine linked to said data storage
7 system for formatting the processed data in accordance with
8 predetermined high level rules; and

9 c) computer code for an output system linked to said form engine
10 for outputting formatted data created from said form engine
11 processing.

1 17. The invention of Claim 16 wherein said predetermined rules
2 further comprise computer code for using loose value tradeoffs for formatting
3 processed data.

1 18. The invention of Claim 17 wherein said computer code for using
2 loose value tradeoffs is selected from a group of computer codes including: fit
3 all data on one page; cleanly define text columns; bold face first line of new
4 text; and shrink photos proportionally with text.

1 19. The invention of Claim 17 further comprising computer code for
2 sublevels of loose value tradeoffs.

1 20. The invention of Claim 18 wherein said computer code for- fit all
2 data on one page- further comprises computer code for sublevel loose value
3 tradeoffs: reduce font, shrink photos and graphics proportional with font,
4 reduce length of some data fields, and shrink margin.